GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2341
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2006
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF ENERGY
Acharia Shri Basudeb

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study on environmental impacts of various energy options;

(b) if so, the details of study made in this regard;

(c) whether the Government has worked out any plan to minimize the environmental degradation while meeting the increasing power demands; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed/taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b) No specific study has been conducted by the Government on environmental impacts of various energy options. However, energy - environment linkages have been dealt in the draft report of the Expert Committee on Integrated Energy Policy set up by the Planning Commission.

(c) & (d) The regulatory regime to integrate environmental concerns into developmental projects relating to energy sector is in place. Under the provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 1994 as amended subsequently, projects relating to Thermal Power, Nuclear Power, Hydel Power, exploration of oil and gas and their production, petroleum refineries require prior environmental clearance. These projects are appraised based on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies. Based on the EIA, necessary environmental safeguard measures are put in place as part of the Environment Management Plan.